

201-14270

It has come to my attention that the company Merisol has submitted two Chemical testing plans to you that will kill more than 1,700 animals in inhumane and pointless tests. Merisol is Violated the EPA's minimal animal-welfare provisions of your high production Volume Chemical-testing program. The HPV program guidelines state that companies use existing data instead of conducting new tests. I have included with this letter examples of what Merisol plans to do. They already have information on these chemicals and do not need to run any more tests. Please help save these animals from these pointless and cruel tests.

Sincerely,
Jamie Taylor

1. Merisol already has LD50 (lethal dose poisoning) test data on five of the six xylene chemicals that it manufactures. Yet, instead of using those data, the company is planning to kill more animals in another LD50 test of an arbitrary and meaningless mixture of these six chemicals.

2. In its test plan for ethylphenols, Merisol states up front that "no existing studies will be relied upon for HPV evaluations." In other words, Merisol apparently has access to existing data but is choosing to ignore them, preferring instead to run painful new LD50, reproductive, developmental, and genetic toxicity tests on animals.

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